

THE SYNONYMY OF *PAPILIO CORIDON* PODA,  
*PAPILIO PHOCION* FABRICIUS AND  
OTHERS

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Having been confronted with the problem of applying the correct name to the insect usually known as *Perichares coridon* Fabricius (often misspelled "*corydon*"), the authors have assembled all the pertinent references by the early authors involving the various names which have been applied to this insect and the same names given by the same or other authors to entirely different insects. These references are listed below in their chronological order.

The main confusion has arisen from the action of Fabricius in applying the same name to different insects. For instance, he used the name "*phocion*" for three species of *Hesperiidæ* and one species of *Satyridæ*.

The first name applied by Fabricius to the insect in question is *Papilio coridon* (1775) from Jamaica which is a homonym of *Papilio coridon* Poda (1761). He later changed the name of this insect to *Hesperia phocion* (1793, p. 335) the first usage of this combination and a valid name.

Prior to this he had described *Papilio phocion* (1781) an African hesperid in the modern genus *Ceratrachia*, the first usage of this combination and a valid name.

Unfortunately in the same publication in which he uses *Hesperia phocion* (1793, p. 335) to replace *Papilio coridon* (1775), on a later page he lists the African species he had described as *Papilio phocion* (1781) under the name *Hesperia phocion* (1793, p. 354) which is the second usage of this combination and under ordinary circumstances would be an invalid name.

We take the view that since both *Papilio phocion* (1781) from Africa and *Hesperia phocion* (1793, p. 335) from Jamaica were valid names when published and the insects to which they refer are members of widely separated modern genera and in no way conflict, the action of Fabricius in including them both under *Hesperia* does not invalidate either of them.

Apparently Turton (1806) had one view and Westwood (1852) another; we think both incorrect.

1761, *Papilio* (Plebeji Parvi) *coridon* Poda (Nicolaus)

Insecta Musei Græcensis, etc., p. 77, No. 48.

This is a valid species in the Palearctic fauna, *Lycæna coridon* (Poda), 1909, Seitz, Macrolep. World, I, p. 315, Pl. 81 c, d.

1763, *Papilio coridon* Scopoli (I. A.)

Entomologia Carniolica, etc., p. 179.

This is a reference to *P. coridon* Poda from "Carniolia calidiore."

1775, *Papilio* (Plebeji Urbicolæ) *coridon* Fabricius

Systema Entomologiæ, p. 533, No. 385. "Jamaica."

This is a hesperid and the type of the genus *Perichares* Scudder. The name is a homonym of *P. coridon* Poda (1761).

1781, *Papilio coridon* Cramer

Pap. Exot., IV, p. 97, Pl. 340 C, D, E. From Cape of Good Hope and coast of Coromandel.

Butler (1869, Cat. Diur. Lep. desc. by Fabricius, etc., p. 162) places this name as a synonym of the Old World Lycaenid *Castalius rosimon* Fabricius (1775). The name is a homonym of *P. coridon* Poda (1761).

1781, *Papilio* (Plebeji Urbicolæ) *phocion* Fabricius

Species Insectorum, II, p. 138, No. 642. From "Africa æquinoctiali."

Butler (1869, *loc. cit.*, p. 274) erects the genus *Ceratrichia* with *nothus* Fabricius as genotype and includes *phocion* Fabricius (1781) in the genus. This is a valid name.

1787, *Papilio* (Plebeii Rurales) *corydon* Fabricius

Mantissa Insectorum, II, p. 74, No. 693. From "Austria."

The following references are given:

"Papilio Corydon Wien, Verz. 184. 10.

"Papilio Corydon Esp. pap. tab. 33. fig. 4.

"Papilio Tiphys Esp. tab. 51. fig. 4. vix a Fæmina hujus distincta."

Butler (1869, *loc. cit.*, p. 170) cites "Denis" 1776, Schiffermueller, Ignatz und Denis, Johann N. C. M., Systematisches Verzeichniss der Schmetterlinge, etc., Wien. and "Esper, Eur. Schmett. i, pt. 1. pl. 33, fig. 4 (1777)." These references all apply

to *P. coridon* Scopoli (1763) and thus to *P. coridon* Poda (1761), the name being misspelled "*corydon*."

1787, *Papilio* (Plebeii Urbicolæ) *coridon* Fabricius

Mantissa Insectorum, II, p. 87, No. 790.

This is a relisting of *P. coridon* (1775).

1793, *Papilio* (Satyri) *phocion* Fabricius

Entomologia Systematica, III, Part I, p. 218, No. 683. No locality.

Butler (1869, *loc. cit.*, p. 15) places this butterfly in the genus *Euptychia* giving the locality, United States. Kirby (1871, Syn. Cat. Diur. Lep., p. 55, No. 123) erroneously cites the reference: "Spec. Ins., II, p. 138, n. 642. (1781)." This name is a homonym of *P. phocion* Fabricius (1781). It is replaced by *Neonympha areolatus* Abbot and Smith (1797, *Papilio Areolatus*, Hist. nat. Lep. Georgia, I, p. 25, Pl. 13).

1793, *Hesperia* (Rurales) *corydon* Fabricius

Entomologia Systematica, III, Part I, p. 298, No. 133.

This is a relisting of *P. corydon* (1787, Mant. Ins., II, p. 74, No. 693) under *Hesperia* instead of *Papilio*.

1793, *Hesperia* (Urbicolæ) *phocion* Fabricius

Entomologia Systematica, III, Part I, p. 335, No. 274. From "Jamaica."

Fabricius refers to "Papilio Coridon. Mant. Ins. 2, 87, 790" which as above noted is a relisting of *P. coridon* (1775). Thus a new and valid name is given to the Jamaican hesperid. This is the first usage of the combination "*Hesperia phocion*."

1793, *Hesperia* (Urbicolæ) *phocion* Fabricius

Entomologia Systematica, III, Part I, p. 354, No. 345. From "Africa."

This is a relisting of *Papilio phocion* (1781) under *Hesperia*. This is the second usage of the combination "*Hesperia phocion*" but it does not invalidate the original description of the insect under the name *Papilio phocion* (1781).

1798, *Hesperia* (Urbicolæ) *phocion* Fabricius

Supplementum Entomologiæ Systematicæ, p. 431, No. 232. From "America meridionali."

This name is a homonym of *H. phocion* (1793, *loc. cit.*, p. 335, No. 274) and it is placed by prior authors in the synonymy of *Polites themistocles* (Latreille) (1823).

1806, *Papilio* (Hes. Urb.) *julianus* Turton (M. D., William)

A General System of Nature, translations of Linnæus Systema Naturæ, III, Part 2, p. 158.

This is a new name for *Hesperia phocion* Fabricius (1793, *loc. cit.*, p. 335, No. 274) and as it is unnecessary it is a synonym of that name.

1852, *Cyclopides phocæus* Westwood

Doubleday, Westwood and Hewitson, Gen. Diur. Lep., II, p. 521, No. 5.

Westwood proposes a new name:

“Cyclopides

“5. Cycl. Phocæus Westw.

“*Hesperia Phocion* Fabricius, *Ent. Syst.*, III, part I, p. 354, n. 345.

“Not *H. Phocion* *Fab. Op. C.* p. 335, nor *Suppl.* p. 431.”

As the *Hesperia phocion* referred to is valid and the original combination of *Papilio phocion* (1781) is valid, the new name is unnecessary and *phocæus* Westwood becomes a synonym of *Ceratrachia phocion*.

On the basis of the names mentioned (but not including any other synonymy) we list the valid names with their synonymy.

*Neonympha areolatus* Abbot and Smith

*phocion* Fabricius (1793, p. 218, No. 683)

*Lycæna coridon* Poda

*Castalius rosimon* Fabricius

*coridon* Cramer (1781)

*Ceratrachia phocion* Fabricius (1781)

*phocæus* Westwood

*Polites themistocles* Latreille

*phocion* Fabricius (1798)

*Perichares phocion* Fabricius (1793)

*coridon* Fabricius (1775)

*julianus* Turton